

KAPPA ALPHA

THE TA

Magazine



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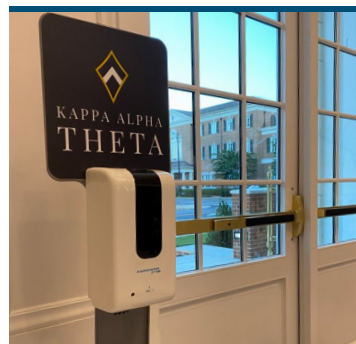
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- Kappa Alpha Theta Fraternity, founded at Indiana Asbury College (DePauw University), Greencastle, Indiana, on January 27, 1870, is the first Greek-letter fraternity for women.
- "Kappa Alpha Theta," "Theta," its coat of arms, its badges, and the Leading Women logo are registered trademarks of Kappa Alpha Theta Fraternity.
- Because Kappa Alpha Theta is not an officially recognized student organization at Santa Clara and Georgetown, these schools prohibit using their names in any published reference to our Eta Lambda and Theta Iota Chapters. We designate those chapters with a tilde (~) accompanied by the name of the school.
- In "Housing History" (Spring 2020), we referred to the Beta Tau house at Denison University as the "little white house." It is, instead, affectionately called the "wee white house" to its alumnae.
- A majority of the photos featured in this issue were submitted by members from events that occurred prior to COVID-19 mask mandates and in-person event restrictions.

What's a Swan Song, Anyway?

BY: LIZ APPEL RINCK | GAMMA/BUTLER



Because I'm an animal lover as well as an aficionado of the English language, it's probably not surprising that I'm fond of animal idioms. I frequently thank those who proofread each issue of the Theta magazine for their eagle eyes, refer to goat rodeos when it seems everything is a mess and there's nothing to be done about it, and fuss about my grammatical pet peeves.

I don't often have occasion to use the term swan song, which appears in ancient Greek and Roman literature as well as several of Shakespeare's plays and the writings of many, many others. A swan song is the last performance or final creative work of an actor, author, athlete, or the like.

This letter from the editor is my Theta magazine swan song.

I joined Theta's staff on November 14, 1994. (The college-age Thetas who are reading this magazine wouldn't even be born for another four to eight years!) I retired as Theta's 21st editor and third director of communications on July 31, 2020. Over the intervening 9,392 days, as is probably to be expected, quite a lot happened in the world, and in Kappa Alpha Theta herself.

- We held 12 Grand Conventions in eight cities—three each in Tucson and Orlando—with a cumulative attendance of more than 8,175 Thetas.
- Theta Foundation awarded over \$28 million in scholarships and grants. That number includes all dollars awarded by the Foundation, including scholarships, chapter and individual grants, Natural Disaster Relief grants, and the grant to the Fraternity.
- The Fraternity Housing Corporation (FHC) grew from merely an idea to a robust organization that manages 98 Theta chapter facilities that provide safe, competitive, and desirable homes for our collegians.
- We published 94 issues of the Theta magazine. These included 94 letters from the editor; many new or revamped regular and special features; a variety of cover designs; and numerous updates to our nameplate, masthead, page templates, and page sizes.

As the above paragraphs emphasize, my time as editor has been ... well, long. Looking back at some of the things we've done makes me cringe a bit, but looking back at others gives me a little glow of satisfaction. At the risk of sounding like an egomaniac, I am primarily proud of the past 25-plus years.

My time as editor has also been like a master class for me. I have learned so much, and if you have been reading our magazine during that time, I hope you have, too! We worked hard to make sure each issue included stories that offered opportunities for intellectual growth, as well as entertainment and inspiration.

Finally, my time as editor of our magazine has been my introduction to hundreds of amazing, generous, and inspiring women. To name you all would require every page of this issue; I hope you know who you are and how much each of you has meant to me.

It's very tempting to indulge in more sentimentality here, to make myself cry ... and try to make you cry along with me. Instead, I'm going to indulge in something much more pleasant: introducing our new editor!

Isabella Markovski-Dickey, Alpha/DePauw, recently celebrated her fifth anniversary on Theta's staff; she began her tenure as communications assistant, and her most recent position was assistant editor. Bella has brought—and will continue to bring—an abundance of creativity, style, and positivity to the Theta magazine. While being aware and appreciative of its rich history, she is also looking forward to putting her own mark on this 135-year-old publication. In fact, she, along with Theta's graphic designer, Claire Bowles White, have produced our first all-digital magazine: this, the Summer/Autumn 2020 edition. And I look forward to seeing the many other wonderful things they will accomplish, too.

If retirement can be regarded as the next chapter in life, I can't wait to see how the characters evolve and the plot develops in my own next chapter. I know one thing for sure: four times each year, I will drop whatever I'm doing to read the latest issue of the *Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine*.

News, Views, & Stuff You Can Use



▲ Eta Omicron/North Florida

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Theta Sisterhood

on the Other Side of the World

BY: KATIE NELSON MARCUCCI | BETA EPSILON/OREGON STATE

One of the most challenging aspects of living the rather nomadic military lifestyle is the difficulty in staying connected to the communities which nurtured you, and for which—although you no longer call them home, you still have deep love. But military life is also filled with great surprises, and sometimes, when you least expect it, the remnants of home find you, even on the other side of the world.

It was February of 2018 when I found myself living on the tiny island of Okinawa, Japan, managing a new baby and a preschooler, largely by myself. My husband had been assigned to Kadena Airbase that summer, to continue flying the MC-130J aircraft for the US Air Force. Shortly after relocating our family to this very foreign country, we learned he would also be deploying to Afghanistan again. I feared it would be a lonely and overwhelming few months.

So, on a chance, I invited the wife of another pilot, who deployed from Okinawa in the same aircraft alongside my husband, to an outing on our new island home. While conversing atop the ruins of an ancient



▲ Katie Nelson Marcucci, Beta Epsilon/Oregon State, and Bethany Haberstroh Kirk, Epsilon Omega/Washington & Jefferson

castle and looking at the waters of the East China Sea, we discovered we were Theta sisters, and each chapter presidents. To say that this unexpected Theta connection and commonality was comforting is an understatement. My “new” Theta sister, Bethany Haberstroh Kirk, attended Washington & Jefferson College and joined the Epsilon Omega Chapter in 2007! This immediate infusion of sisterhood was life-giving and, as we came to find out, very necessary.

This was Beth’s first experience with deployment. As the more seasoned military spouse, I helped her navigate through worries, fears, and loneliness. For me, my Theta sister brought support and friendship as she helped me juggle the needs of two small children while seeing I tended to my own, on occasion. Simple things like watching my children, having her over for dinner, and attending church together became our new normal. For our husbands, it was great comfort to know we were in each other’s caring hands.

Never was this truer than, on September 28, 2018, when category-3 typhoon Trami directly hit and devastated Okinawa. With resiliency, my kids, Beth, and I rode out the storm and endured days without power and water. We made the most of completing puzzles by headlamps and eating dry cereal and granola bars in the stifling heat. We simply got each other through it.

Of military life, we say it gives us the highest highs and lowest lows. While it certainly felt like one of my worst moments, watching my husband walk out the door for his fifth deployment ultimately led me to my Theta sister, Beth. While we jokingly consider ourselves the founding members of Theta’s first Japanese alumnae chapter, we seriously consider ourselves lifelong sisters.

My children’s book titled *Air Force Ace* is available through Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and my publisher, Mascot Books (www.mascotbooks.com). It’s a story told through the lens of the family dog detailing what a deployment is and answering questions for children of service members who are separated from their loved ones. It was a labor of love written to help my own children as they endured the absence of their dad during his deployments.

Editor’s Note: While Katie and Bethany are no longer based in Okinawa at the time of this publication, they remain close friends.

LEADING WOMAN

AMY HUCK, BETA THETA/IDAHO, IS A COLLEGIAN WITH A HUGE HEART AND A SELFLESS MISSION. NOT ONLY DOES SHE SERVE BETA THETA CHAPTER AS CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, SHE FOCUSES HER EMBROIDERY AND SEWING SKILLS TO SERVE THE HEALTHCARE COMMUNITY SURROUNDING THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO IN THE MIDST OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC. UNDOUBTEDLY, AMY EXEMPLIFIES THE QUALITIES OF A...



Amy Huck, Beta Theta/Idaho ▲

chapter. I loved how easy Greek life made it to socialize and meet people. I registered for formal recruitment as soon as I got home from that weekend. I knew I wanted to be a Theta when I learned that our philanthropy was CASA. My family adopted my youngest sister four or five years ago and had experience with a CASA. When I heard about CASA, I was thinking about her. Theta was supporting a cause that supported my family. Theta basically became family to me in that moment.

I have learned a lot about myself from Theta. I learned that I am not a social person 100% of the time, but that this is OK. I could still make great connections with people and create memories I'd never forget. Through my leadership in the chapter as chief financial officer (CFO), I have also learned so much about how different kinds of people handle money and how delicate a subject it is for people, no matter what circumstances

I wasn't very social in high school. When I went up to register for classes during a recruitment event called "U Idaho Bound", I stayed the night at University of Idaho's Alpha Gamma Delta

they are in. I have learned so much about communication and conflict management. I have always been a worker bee. For example, I keep everything straight by utilizing a color-coded planner and trying to stick to a routine which includes "office hours" for CFO-related tasks. Routines help me stay focused and make sure that I am dedicating time to what is important to me.

During Idaho's early quarantine stages, it was really difficult for me to stay motivated. I just told myself that I needed to keep going and keep reaching for my goals. I also had to come to terms with the fact that not every day has to be 100% productive. I struggled with downtime a lot but allowing myself to find a balance of work and downtime was vital for my motivation to be "productive."

From day one in Theta, I saw many women doing incredible things. From one sister balancing a science major with being an ambassador for her college; to a sister acting as our campus's Panhellenic president; to another sister balancing ROTC with school as well as two jobs and her love of baking.... There never was a short supply of women for me to look up to. As I became an upperclassman, I wanted to be that kind of leader to the women who joined Theta after me. Then, when COVID-19 began wreaking havoc on the U.S., my commitment to being a CFO—and representative of Beta Theta Chapter—helped keep me driven. I have been an active part in our member refund process and our future

fall re-opening plan following state and federal health guidelines. I want my sisters to be able to be together again and be financially sound enough to return to our home.

I started embroidering as a young child, but I didn't start sewing in this capacity until I got to college. My work-study is in correlation with the theater department at the University of Idaho; I work as a stitcher in the costume department. It was there that I was trained to sew. When the pandemic hit, it was a theater staffer's idea to use leftover materials from theatrical garments to create masks and donate them to Gritman Medical Center. She even lent me one of the department's sewing machines indefinitely so that I could participate! I plan to graduate Spring 2021 with a double major in accounting and operations management, with an entrepreneurial certificate, and a technical theater minor.

As I think about what being a "leading woman" means to me, I think of this: a leading woman puts others first but doesn't forget to take care of herself. She listens to the needs of others with compassion but respects the work that others have done before her. She isn't afraid of making change but does it by making smart decisions for the betterment of everyone. She does not lead for the attention of others but to make a better world for the people she loves. A leading woman has perseverance, independence, and faith. A leading woman is everything that being a Theta represents.

THE HERITAGE Museum

Join Us on a Journey Through History

Welcome to the virtual grand opening of the Heritage Museum at Theta headquarters! We're thrilled to take you on a tour of exhibits that present the fascinating stories of the origin and influence of fraternities and sororities, particularly women fraternities and sororities. Using the resources and artifacts from our archives, we share how these tell the fascinating including the ways in which women fraternities and sororities advanced the movement for higher education for women in North America.

If you'd like to visit in person, the museum is open by appointment to both the public and Thetas. Please contact Chris Finley (cfinley@kappaalphatheta.org) to make arrangements. We are currently following CDC and local guidelines to protect our visitors' health. When scheduling your tour, you will be informed of the current requirements and restrictions.

The Heritage Museum is funded by a grant from Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation.

▶ The evolution of sororities and fraternities is explored through communications vehicles, housing, and conventions; the ways in which clothing from Theta's archives reflect women's changing experience over the years; and the ways in which the earliest women students had to fight for the right to an education.

▶ Our museum will be hands-on! Through interactive displays, visitors will be able to tell their stories or share information about their college activities.





▲ Historical photographs transport visitors back in time to discover the effects of fraternities and sororities on their members' lives during and after college.



From the first known college-based secret society to the present day, an illustrated timeline shows how groups like Theta were created within the context of North American history.



Rotating exhibit space provides a closer look at topics reflected in the larger exhibits. Current special exhibits explore the centennial of US women gaining the right to vote and the contributions of sororities and their members to the allied victory in World War II.



▲ Permanent displays feature factual accounts, photographs, and artifacts in an open-concept space.



From the beginning, Greek-letter groups have fostered a culture of philanthropy. National Panhellenic Conference member organizations—including Theta—support an impressive variety of service organizations.

Moving Forward...

Together

**Taking
responsibility
for past actions,
even though
we may not be
proud of them,
will help us to
not repeat past
missteps and
mistakes.**

It is difficult to comprehend what life was like for young women in 1870, when our founders attended Indiana Asbury. For Bettie, Alice, Hannah, and Bettie, bias and discrimination were everyday experiences. Citizens of Greencastle refused to rent living space to female students; professors opposed the admission of women because it would tarnish the reputation of the school; and male students denied women

membership in campus social and literary groups.

Our founders created Kappa Alpha Theta as a safe, supportive space in which women could aspire to be their best selves. And for the past 150 years, we have justifiably celebrated that.

Yet it is also important to acknowledge that Theta has been, since our founding, a predominantly white organization. And while members of color have been welcomed into our sisterhood in growing numbers every year, recent membership surveys indicate those members often do not have as fulfilling a Theta experience as white members. That is unacceptable.

The very values of Kappa Alpha Theta lead us to oppose and condemn racism

on both individual and societal levels. We have work to do to make Theta a more inclusive place, to support our members of color, and to stand up to the forces of systemic racism that still plague the world. Taking responsibility for past actions, even though we may not be proud of them, will help us to not repeat past missteps and mistakes.

Our new Plan of Aspirations includes diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) efforts as a core component, and an inclusion workgroup has been active since 2013. But our efforts to combat exclusion—whether on the basis of gender identity, sexual orientation, physical challenges, culture, or race—simply must advance with more urgency. Intentional efforts to make Kappa Alpha Theta a more inclusive organization don't rest solely within a workgroup or committee or Grand Council; we must all join together to engage in this work. Here is an update on Theta's current priorities and how we are planning to move forward.

- **Kappa Alpha Theta's first priority is to conduct a DEI review of the entire organization to identify biases, barriers to members with marginalized identities, and ways we are failing to lead and support our members.**

- **Grand Council reviewed the college chapter officer structure and endorsed a permanent DEI officer for college chapters. Beginning this fall, a DEI officer will be elected to each college chapter's executive committee. This officer will be charged with proactively addressing diversity, equity, and inclusion concerns within the chapter.**

- **Staff and volunteers are evaluating other key operation areas, including recruitment practices and the costs of membership. Our DEI workgroup has consistently identified finances as a barrier to seeking or retaining membership for many worthy members. We are actively researching solutions.**

- **We will increase education, awareness, and training on topics related to diversity, equity, and inclusion. In July, three town hall sessions for members with under-represented identities shared their membership experiences with staff and Grand Council members. A new DEI module was added to our member orientation program. In October 2020, a DEI webinar was offered to alumnae chapter officers and college chapter advisors. We are currently working on a DEI module to train workforce staff and volunteers.**

- **We have established a web page to keep members informed on work that is being done to improve Theta's efforts on inclusion and diversity within the organization. To learn more, visit (<https://www.kappaalphatheta.org/about-us/diversity-equity-inclusion>)**

- **We have established a Director of DEI volunteer position, and the DEI workgroup has been established as a standing committee with Grand Council appointing a volunteer committee chairman. The Director of DEI will attend Grand Council meetings to provide expertise and advise members in the areas of diversity, equity, and inclusion. The DEI committee chairman is responsible for providing guidance and support to Theta staff and the committee as they proactively work to address DEI concerns within the organization. These two volunteers will work together to provide strategic direction for Theta's DEI initiatives.**

Theta's founders knew what it was like to fight for inclusion in a world that was often indifferent ... even actively hostile. In creating Kappa Alpha Theta, they built an organization of women supporting women, not only for themselves but, as Bettie Locke Hamilton wrote in later years, "for all the girls who would follow after us." By choosing to embrace inclusion and diversity, by being unafraid to stand out and make a difference together, we remain in line with our core purpose as an organization. And we can do better. We can work together to oppose and condemn racism on individual, societal, and systemic levels, and to personify our values by persisting in the ongoing work of personal and institutional reflection and change connected to anti-racism.

Ver

We began the Tell Your Theta Story campaign as part of our sesquicentennial celebration, and through it, we are able to amplify the voices and experiences of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and people of color) Theta sisters on social media and our website. Some of the stories are heartbreaking, but real change is often driven by uncomfortable moments and difficult conversations.

"I love Theta with all my heart and will continue to be a proud member for as long as I live, and that is why it was incredibly devastating for me to make the difficult choice to not affiliate once I transferred schools and considered joining a new chapter. *The lack of women who looked like me in the chapter, the other Greek organizations that actively avoided recruiting multicultural potential new members, the subtle undercurrent of alienation, and the overwhelming feeling of not belonging was too much. In that chapter, I would have been alienated, ever conscious of being 'the other/different one.'* I know my experience is not unique—to other multicultural Greek women and to other Theta chapters across the country—but nevertheless the impact this experience is having on our fraternity and its ability to spread our love across boundaries is very real."

– Elisabeth Apanda, Zeta Phi/Pepperdine

"I served as an alumnae chapter president for two years in Phoenix, but my involvement has grown stagnant within the past several years. *My experience in this country as a Black woman (and, now, mother of two Black sons) has been increasingly difficult. I have a desire to embrace my blackness and also my white sisters, despite racial tension in the world.* It has been rough. I have deleted [from social media] sisters for comments; they have deleted me. I have also remained in strong contact with several sisters. If there is true, concerted effort from our organization on this topic, I am immediately paying my alumnae dues and signing up wherever I can to help drive this message. *Theta love truly is special ... but this touches in a place Theta has not reached in the past.* I hope to see where I can be involved in the future."

– Nicole Scott Nixon, Gamma Tau/Tulsa

"The initial warmth and love I felt as an undergraduate member unfortunately changed when I graduated and moved to another state. *Several years ago, a Theta alumnae chapter removed me from the Facebook group* upon discovering I was Black. At first, this seemed unbelievable. Certainly, there must be a mistake. Two months later, local news broke of the same alumnae chapter influencing recruitment and not 'permitting' the chapter to offer a bid to a top candidate simply because she was Black. *You hear it happens, but you never think it will happen to you, especially not within our sisterhood.* Worst of all, it made me rethink what I thought I knew about the world. *I shudder to imagine what my impression of Theta had it not been for the beautiful connections and relationships I had made before this experience.*"

– Ella Parlor, Eta Sigma/Chapman

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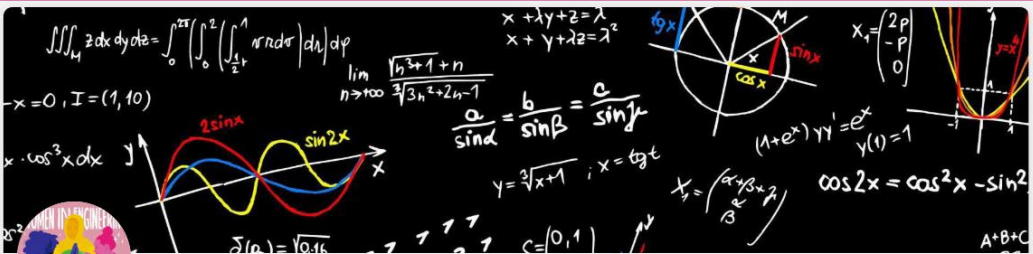
Theta is pleased to introduce a new app to help alumnae and collegians support and keep in touch with one another in both our personal and professional lives: **ThetaConnect.org**

Powered by Graduway, the ThetaConnect app lets you search our network of members, find a mentor or serve as one, and connect with others in interest groups. The possibilities are exciting!

The best part? **ThetaConnect is available to all members at no cost.**

Sign up and keep checking back on the ThetaConnect app to join more than 3,300 Thetas to discover new groups; send and read private messages to other members; browse through an up-to-the-minute newsfeed with job opportunities, updates, and announcements; and more!





Theta Engineers

Join

FEED MEMBERS PHOTOS EVENTS

Description

A place for Thetas in engineering industry or engineering students to support each other as well as share tips, tricks and opportunities!

Administrators

 Maggi Richard
CHROME Lab, Undergraduate Researcher



DevelopHer Thetas

JOINED

FEED MEMBERS JOBS PHOTOS EVENTS

Description

This group is for all Thetas that want to build their value and stand out in their careers and earn more \$. Group is moderated by DevelopHer's Founder and Sister Theta, Lauren Hasson (Beta Rho, Duke University).

[Go to our website](#)

Administrators

 Lauren Hasson
DevelopHer, Founder



Theta Nurses

Join

FEED MEMBERS PHOTOS EVENTS

Description

Where theta alumna can share their nursing experiences, provide support to one another, and opportunities to expand your nursing career.

Administrators

 Krista Palmiotto
Registered Nurse

To learn more, visit the Theta website at
www.kappaalphatheta.org/members/programs/thetaconnect.

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Pansy Patch in Bloom!

The 5,336 pansies purchased in July illustrate that Theta love and sisterhood know no bounds. Each pansy purchased supports existing programs and helps fund the future for a more inclusive Theta.

As part of Kappa Alpha Theta's Sesquicentennial Pansy Patch, Theta Foundation was thrilled to announce the 150 Giving Clubs. Every generous donor received **a custom pansy pin** denoting their membership in these clubs and for every honoree, a gold symbol of the thoughtfulness shown from the Theta sisters by whom they were honored.

It is Theta Foundation's pleasure to recognize the following chapters and donors that made the tremendous success of Giving Tuesday 2019 and Pansy Patch possible. These gold pansies account for a combined total of more than \$313,000 in support of the *Theta Forever Fund*... adding to the already incredible \$72,424 in pansies this summer!



In Love: \$15,000

Ann Degenhart
Beth Gayden Williams
Cathie Waters Cardelucci
Cynthia Newton Gayden
Dinah Hampton McClymonds
Florence Ashby
Judith Gebhard Smith
Katherine Gayden Keenan
Leighton Johnson Donnell
Mary Ellen Kutsenda Fitzsimonds
Stephanie Machen
Susie Adams Smith
TJ Flynn Condon
Vicki Laughlin McCluggage
Wendy Sears Goshert

In Hope \$1,500

Ally Richards
Alpha Eta/Vanderbilt
Alpha Lambda/Washington
Amy Gough Pierce
Ana Ellis Schwab
Ann McIlrath Drake
Ann Holmes
Becky Reddick
Beta Gamma/Colorado State
Beta Iota/Colorado
Beta Xi/UCLA
Beth Nagel Marcin
Betsy Schultz Humphreys
Betsy Sierk Corridan
Brittany Scancarella Ela
Catherine Cardelucci Jara

Chris Thompson Briede
Christiane Hoffman Frank
Cydney Stewart
Dale Vance Braun
Donna Levens Schmidt
Emily Parks
Erica D'Angelo Ochs
Gamma Delta/Georgia
Gayle Snavely Medill
Jane Shepherd Dick
Jessica Cardelucci Nugent
Jillian Mathias Kyde
Jodi Fox Clark
Justine Rosenberg Thomas
Kara Prestage Van Duzee
Kate Rittner
Kathleen Markey
Kathy McKenna Toghia
Kathy Savage Strong
Katie Busby
Kelley Galbreath Hurst
Kellie Dickerson
Kendy Cusick-Rindone
Kim Harvey Looney
Kim Linin
Laura Ware Doerre
Laurie McGregor Connor
Leah Hartman
Lisa Davis Olney
Lyn Stewart Simensen
Lynn Baran McCarthy
Lynne Ausnehrmer Danon
Mandy Burgett Wushinske
Mary Jane Parker Beach
Mary Kay Fordney Wysham
Millyn Kelley Gaaserud
Monisa Cox Cline
Nancy Johnston Byers

Nancy Milligan Frick
Nicole Biles von Thaden
Omicron/USC
Pat Doomar Mierse
Patty Dengler
Sophie Koff
South Orange County
Alumnae Chapter
Sue Shane Sautermeister
Supple Family
Susie Albrecht

In Faith \$150

Aimee Billow Forsythe
Alpha Pi/North Dakota
Amy Banachowski
Anne Schneider
Anne Treadwell Henn
April Brown
Bailey Gordon
Betsy Dixon
Bonnie Kearns
Catherine Cate Sullivan
Catherine James King
Cheryl Christensen Sullivan
Christa Samaha
Cindy Shaffer Thoennes
Donna Heinekamp
Donna Wheaton Kamke
Eta Sigma/Chapman
Gloria Stephens Williams
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Kimi Morris Martin
Kristine Larson Wix
Lilly Kuwashima
Linda Thompson Orfanos
Lisa Goodlad
Lisa Sombart Street
Lisa Wilson Lehman
Liz Bush Weiss
Lori Burgett Gillett
Lynda Malugen Wiley
Marcia Wolff Thompson
Mary McCluggage Keith
Nikki Selander Heyd
Noraleen DuVall Young
Oxford Alumnae Chapter
Pat Fellows Parker
Rachel Ocampo
Robin Hampton Smith
Robyn Sierk Canfield
Ruth Wong Miller
Susan Papai Wolff
Teresa Silva Smith
Tory Witt

Kappa Alpha Theta's 2020 Plan of Aspirations

Over the past five years, the Fraternity, Foundation, and Fraternity Housing Corporation (FHC) board members, staff and volunteers, alumnae groups and college chapters, and individual Thetas have worked diligently to align the vision of our founders with a modern-day organizational structure and culture as we approached our sesquicentennial year. In late 2019, board members, other Theta officers, and staff began formulating a new plan to launch us into the next 150 years.

Using data and research to guide their work, Grand Council assessed Theta's mission, vision, and values; considered obstacles facing fraternal organizations; and reviewed Theta's greatest strengths, challenges, opportunities, and threats. Grand Council did this all while determining our unique value proposition and hopes for the next strategic plan. Three priorities were identified to guide the organization over the next three to five years.

First, Grand Council identified the need to continue prioritizing the member experience by customizing support for college chapters; evaluating the alumnae experience to enhance the value of lifetime membership; focusing on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) efforts; and promoting a culture of accountability.

Our second aspiration of securing the successful future of Kappa Alpha Theta underwent a seismic change in 2020. At the time this plan was developed, the greatest threat facing Theta's future was the possibility of institutions impeding on our students' rights of freedom of association. Then, 2020 brought the coronavirus pandemic, the fight for racial justice, and Abolish Greek Life (AGL) movements.

This aspiration is as important as ever; however, the focus has shifted from preserving organizational rights to championing meaningful and needed change and ensuring our financial stability.

Finally, Grand Council recognized the need to help members and stakeholders articulate the value of the Theta experience while providing an experience relevant to today's college student. This aspiration is more critical than ever with the call for systemic change as a result of countless AGL conversations.

Amid the uncertainty and change, Theta's newest Plan of Aspirations offers clear guidance for the future. There is important work prioritized within the plan and the urgency to make progress has never been greater as we work to ensure the next 150 years.

**ASPIRATION 1:
OPTIMIZE THE
KAPPA ALPHA THETA
EXPERIENCE AT ALL
LIFE STAGES.**

Goal 1: Intentionally foster a culture of diversity, equity and inclusion throughout the organization.

Objective 1. Administer a DEI audit.

Goal 2: Promote a culture of accountability.

Objective 1. Encourage and expect members to hold themselves and each other accountable to Theta's values.

Objective 2. Explain expectations of members and chapters during the recruitment process and beyond.

Objective 3. Focus on organization-wide accountability skills development.

Goal 3: Seek and use data to customize college chapter support.

Objective 1. Assess staff/volunteer structure necessary for customized support.

Objective 2. Conduct and use qualitative internal research.

Objective 3. Gather and use external research and best practices.

Goal 4: Transform the alumnae experience to strengthen connections and increase the value of lifetime membership.

Objective 1. Audit current alumnae programs and structure.

Please note: For any objective that references an audit, additional objectives will be added based on audit recommendations.

**ASPIRATION 2:
SECURE THE SUCCESSFUL
FUTURE OF
KAPPA ALPHA THETA.**

Goal 1: Assess and ensure our financial stability in the evolving landscape of higher education.

Objective 1. Establish an enterprise financial health taskforce.

Goal 2: Champion meaningful and needed change in the fraternal community.

Objective 1. Employ change management education to foster an environment in which change can be discussed and implemented.

Objective 2. Create and sustain positive external relationships while evaluating problematic external relationships.

Objective 3. Initiate recruitment practices that reflect reality and contribute to relevant change.

Goal 3: Focus resources on preserving organizational rights.

Objective 1. Educate members on the impact of government and regulatory policies that impact Theta's future.

Objective 2. Expand awareness of and engagement in lobbying efforts.

Objective 3. Equip members to advocate for all organizational rights.

Goal 4: Lead our members, chapters and peer groups in advocating for the fraternity/sorority experience.

Objective 1. Determine and prioritize Theta's role among other Greek letter organizations.

Objective 2. Position Theta as a primary advocate for the relevance of the fraternity/sorority experience.

**ASPIRATION 3:
DEFINE AND ACTIVELY
DEMONSTRATE THE
VALUE AND RELEVANCE
OF THE KAPPA ALPHA
THETA EXPERIENCE.**

Goal 1: Empower members and key stakeholders to effectively articulate the value of Kappa Alpha Theta membership.

Objective 1. Define the value of the Kappa Alpha Theta experience and develop a communications plan.

Objective 2. Offer impactful communication resources to members and key stakeholders.

Objective 3. Integrate defined value into all Theta programming and resources.

Goal 2: Equip members and chapters to promote the positive impact they have on their campuses and in their communities.

Objective 1. Reevaluate what Theta considers positive impact and how we celebrate that.

Objective 2. Assist members and chapters in identifying the impact they are making collectively and individually.

Objective 3. Produce marketing toolkits for college and alumnae chapters.

Goal 3: Institute an organization-wide strategy to partner with college/university leaders.

Objective 1. Delineate an ideal partnership.

Objective 2. Extend relationships with institutions beyond fraternity/sorority life professionals.

Objective 3. Establish and implement best practices for campus support of college chapters.

10

MICHELLE
SULLIVAN

Eta Theta/Central Florida

TEN
QUESTIONS
WITH
ONE
THETA



MICHELLE SULLIVAN, ETA THETA/CENTRAL FLORIDA, IS AN EMERGENCY MEDICINE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT AT NEWYORK-PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL/WEILL CORNELL MEDICAL CENTER, AS WELL AS LOWER MANHATTAN HOSPITAL. SHE HAS BEEN REGULARLY WORKING THE FRONT LINES IN ONE OF THE HOSPITALS HIT HARDEST BY THE CORONAVIRUS. NOT ONLY IS MICHELLE TRAINED IN URGENT MEDICAL CARE, SHE'S CERTIFIED SAFE (SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAMINER) AND PART OF VEPT (VULNERABLE ELDER PROTECTION TEAM). WE HAVE NO CLUE HOW SHE FOUND TIME IN HER BUSY SCHEDULE TO ANSWER OUR 10 QUESTIONS, BUT WE ARE GRATEFUL THAT SHE DID.

1 WHAT ARE SOME OF YOUR BIGGEST TAKEAWAYS AS SOMEONE ON THE "FRONT-EST" OF FRONT LINES FIGHTING A GLOBAL PANDEMIC?

Over the past few months, I've learned how important it is to have a strong team at work! In the beginning of the pandemic when we knew very little about the virus itself, it was quite intimidating going into work and realizing how much we still needed to learn. Working as a team allowed us to safely and effectively take care of a large number of patients, despite not having had the time to prepare adequately. I've also been reminded how grateful I am for my health. I've seen so much illness and suffering over the past few months and have never felt more thankful to be healthy and able to perform my job to help others.

2 WHAT DO YOU VALUE IN YOUR FRIENDS?

I really value loyalty! There's nothing better than a best friend who you can call anytime for anything. A friend that loves you regardless and is there for advice, support, or even just a good venting session. And it doesn't hurt if they have the same taste in wine as you!

3 WHAT'S YOUR GUILTY PLEASURE?

I would definitely say any sort of Bravo marathon, but especially Real Housewives of New York City with Real Housewives of New Jersey as a close second. Lululemon leggings are up there, too. If it motivates you to go to the gym, why not?

4 CATS, DOGS, OR HOUSEPLANTS?

Dogs – hands down! Growing up, I had two golden retrievers who were the absolute sweetest pups. They ended up having a litter of 10 golden puppies! (Can you imagine the cuteness overload?) Unfortunately, it's really tough having a dog in NYC now. My first purchase when I leave NYC one day will be another golden retriever. No doubt about it.

5 WHAT'S ONE ITEM ON YOUR BUCKET LIST?

Skydiving! A few years ago, I went paragliding with two of my best friends in Switzerland. It was an absolutely amazing experience. I'm a big fan and advocate of traveling as much as possible and have been hoping to make skydiving a part of my next big trip.

6 WHAT'S YOUR "UNFAIR ADVANTAGE," A SKILL OR QUALITY THAT DISTINGUISHES YOU?

My empathic nature and ability to connect with people. School can teach you a ton about medicine and pathology, but if you don't know how to connect with your patients, you're only treating half of the issue. During the majority of the COVID pandemic here in NYC, visitors were not allowed into the hospital as a means of preventing further transmission. I learned just how valuable empathy was then, especially when I took on the role of healthcare provider and adjunct family member/friend.

7 LOOKING AT ME, NO ONE WOULD GUESS....

I've been playing violin since the age of 5! I have a very musical family who encouraged me from the very beginning. One of my grandmothers even played piano at Juilliard!

8 WHAT ARE YOUR PET PEEVES?

Slow walkers and being late – which probably goes hand in hand. Slow walkers to the right, faster to the left. We've all got places to be!

9 WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE THETA MEMORY?

There are so many! The first that comes to mind is my first semester as a new member of Eta Theta Chapter. Every fall, the Zeta Tau Alpha chapter at UCF put on an event called the "New Member Lip Sync." Generally speaking, it was a way to showcase the new members of all the sororities and involves some portion of dancing/acting with a theme. My new member class picked a Grease theme. We all wore black leather leggings, Converse sneakers, and bright pink jackets. It was so fun getting to know everyone during practice and it must have showed – we won first place! The bonds made during those first few weeks together laid foundations for many very close, life-long friendships.

10 WHAT DOES THE CONCEPT OF WOMEN SUPPORTING WOMEN MEAN TO YOU?

Women supporting women is so powerful and important. Women continue to make such huge strides and advancements for the world in medicine, science, politics, entertainment – you name it. We have been given so many good role models to remind us of all that we can accomplish, and we can bestow this on the women who will come after us. Women supporting women is a reminder that an achievement for one of us is an achievement for all of us. It is a reminder that we can all be successful in our own right and still share the successes of our comrades. When I think about my evolving career in medicine, it's amazing to recall how many women helped me get there and how much their expertise and concern for my education has shaped me into the healthcare provider and adult that I am today. Here's looking at you, ladies!



KAPPA ALPHA THETA

FRATERNITY HOUSING CORPORATION

A New Kind of Welcome Home

In a normal year, the month of August would see Theta collegians moving into houses, suites, and dorms across the US and Canada. But 2020 is not a normal year. The ongoing effects of the coronavirus have touched everything ... and everything includes Theta housing for our college sisters. As individual campus re-opening models have evolved—sometimes on a day-to-day basis—Fraternity Housing Corporation (FHC) staff and volunteers continue to create contingency plans and work with our chapters to find solutions that fit their campus.

The safety and well-being of Thetas who return to school in person is FHC's primary concern. To help maintain a clean, healthy environment, the following practices have been developed for FHC-managed facilities, and we have recommended that local facility corporation boards (FCBs) adopt them as well.

- Hand-sanitizing stations installed in entryways, dining areas, and additional high-traffic areas.
- Increased cleaning of high-touch surfaces in common areas, including bathrooms.
- Increased access to antibacterial wipes so members can clean door handles and faucets after each use.
- Where possible, beds re-configured to be at least six feet apart with members sleeping head to toe if sharing a room.
- One-way directional signs posted in staircase and hallways to facilitate social distancing.



Members who live in a Theta facility, as well as out-of-house members who visit for meetings and to pick up meals, are required to self-screen (take their own temperature) daily and wear masks in common areas of the house. In order for other guests to visit a facility, chapter members must vote unanimously to allow visitors.

We believe Theta sisterhood is more important now than ever. We know there are risks associated with community living, but we also know that maintaining familiar routines and preventing feelings of isolation are important for emotional wellness. Even as we cope with coronavirus-related changes to our lives, we can take care of ourselves and one another.



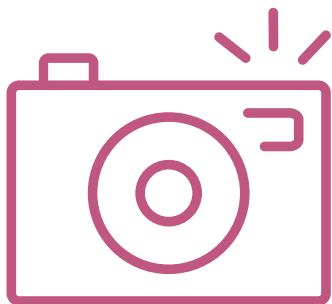
Snapshot



REUNIONS

A The 1991 **Alpha Mu/Missouri** new member class reunited after 10 years at Rocheport Winery last November. They reinforced their friendship through regular Zoom calls of love and support during the coronavirus quarantine. Pictured are **Amy Heck Watkins, Barb Craig Robinson, Leta Parks Anderson, Heidi LaForce Triplett, Marcie Meador Johnson, Kerri Giffin Sedlacek, Carrie Ohlms Swaine, Alison Johns Fondaw, and Jen Sheldon Aven.**

B Who would have thought that COVID-19 could bring us closer together? Two brilliant **Tau/Northwestern** Thetas thought to use Zoom for an online reunion. They had 23 participants, many who have not seen each other for almost 50 years! **Deb Benysh Smith, Tau Northwestern**, shared the screen shot of the fun and innovative reunion.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS & EVENTS

C **Amanda Heckler**, a senior from the **Gamma Delta Chapter** at **University of Georgia**, is the captain of the Georgia Sailing Team. She is pictured racing a 420 in Georgia's competition with Clemson.

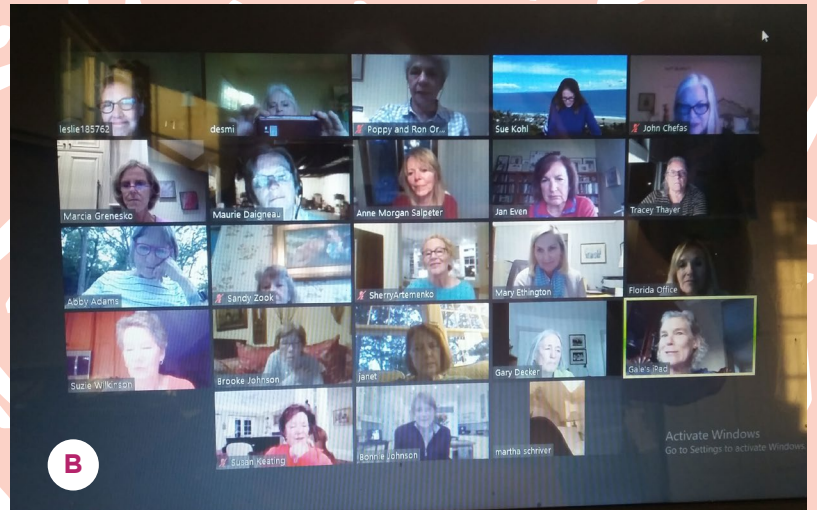
D Congratulations to the new President/CEO of the Community Foundation of Broward, **Dr. Jennifer Lunardini O'Flannery Anderson**, an alumna from **Beta Nu/Florida State**. Jennifer began her new role in August 2020 and brings more than two decades of leadership experience, including community engagement, fundraising, and donor stewardship at Nova Southeastern University.

E Retired Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation Trustee **Cathie Waters Cardelucci, Beta Xi/UCLA**, was honored at a virtual retirement party and was presented with a special badge. Cathie said of her service, "Here I am 40 years after my initiation still learning leadership skills that I never imagined I was capable of! My Theta volunteer work has transformed who I am, and I will be forever grateful for the opportunities."

F Members of the **Omaha Alumnae Chapter** had a Virtual Kite Night in May, of which **Laura Pham, Alpha Rho/South Dakota** said, "We love seeing each other and connecting." Pictured are **Alicia McCormick, Alpha Rho/South Dakota; Laura; Jennifer Six-Reul, Psi/Wisconsin; Lisa Worrall, Rho/Nebraska; Kelsey Johnson Thraen, Rho/Nebraska; and Charissa Hansen, Rho/Nebraska.**

G **Roxie Bostwick, Omega/UC Berkeley**, received the Silver American Business Award for 2019 Communications Professional of the Year. Roxie is communications lead for the Skillz mobile e-sports company and president of San Francisco's "Spinsters" women's philanthropic group, celebrating its 90th year of charitable work in the Bay Area.

H **Sydney Montgomery, Epsilon Mu/Princeton**, is the owner and founder of S. Montgomery Admissions Consulting, a full-service educational consulting company offering 9th-12th grade college counseling services and law school admissions consulting. This spring, Sydney became an Associate Member of the Independent Educational Consultants Association (IECA), joining both the Graduate School Committee and the Ethics Committee.







ALUMNAE & COLLEGIANS

- I** **Alpha Chi/Purdue** alumnae from the 2012 new member class gathered to celebrate **Katie Jackson Tyner's** wedding. Pictured are **Morgan Sprecher, Abby Shaw, Katie, Kristen Ackerman, Allie Bowes, and Megan Lindley.**
- J** **Hon. Barbara Hackman Franklin, Beta Phi/Penn State**, is the subject of a book which highlights how women's rights were advanced under President Richard Nixon. *A Matter of Simple Justice – The Untold Story of Barbara Hackman Franklin and A Few Good Women*, by Lee Stout, tells some of Franklin's story. Franklin served as the 29th US Secretary of Commerce and is currently president and CEO of a private consulting group in Washington, DC.
- K** **Karen Pryor** and **Devon Wohl**, both 2007 **Delta Iota/Puget Sound** initiates, went on safari at the Madikwe Game Reserve in South Africa in March.
- L** Three generations of **Delta Epsilon/Arizona State** Thetas snapped this sweet photo together to celebrate **Charlotte Leonard's** 2019 initiation. Pictured are **Sue Peterson Westhafer, Charlotte, and Cindy Westhafer Leonard.**
- M** Theta Foundation's 2020 nominating committee met virtually in May to slate candidates for the 2020 Foundation Board of Trustees. Pictured are **Kathy Bennett Tonkel, Eta/Michigan; Lisa Davis Olney, chairman, Delta Epsilon/Arizona State; Kelly Wesley Taylor, Gamma Iota/Kentucky; and Kelley Galbreath Hurst, Beta Iota/Colorado.**
- N** Former Zeta Phi Chapter chief learning officer (CLO) **Katie Walker, Zeta Phi/Pepperdine**, led the **Palos Verdes Peninsula Alumnae Chapter** in a night of ritual, re-educating its members on Theta symbols, ritual songs, and ceremony significances to celebrate and remember the special sisterhood bond that we all as Thetas experience in both our college years and beyond. Pictured from the January 2020 gathering are **Cathy Callicoat Fresch, Delta Epsilon/Arizona State; Lissa Laird Walker, Delta Epsilon/Arizona State; Jennifer Ritter Brill, Phi/Pacific; Linda Jacobsen Fester, Phi/Pacific; Brier Shield Boyd, Omicron/USC; Fain Shield Krogh, Omicron/USC; Janice Mooney Maier, Beta Xi/UCLA; Kerry Shield Olson, Omicron/USC; Vall Schofield Light, Gamma Sigma/San Diego State; and C.C. Porter Cunha, Beta Xi/UCLA.**
- O** "Are you a sorority member from college?" That's what **Diane Drayson Campbell, Alpha Tau/Cincinnati** (left) asked **Marge Frank McClintock, Alpha Psi/Lawrence** (right) soon after they met. Naturally screams of joy occurred as they realized they were both Thetas! They now get together for a month each year with their husbands in Siesta Key, Florida where they reminisce over matching Theta tumblers. Both have been members for more than 50 years; you are never too old to meet a new Theta sister.
- P** **Terese Dynjan, Alpha Mu/Missouri, and Jami Nelson Leahy, Delta Eta/Kansas State**, enjoyed their ski trip to Granby, Colorado.

We'd love to hear from you, and we'd love to share what fun you're up to with your Theta sisters. Submit a "Snapshot" for an upcoming issue of the Theta magazine. You could send us a photo with personal or professional news, of past travels, virtual or in-person reunions, or a photo depicting a cherished Theta experience or memory.

Want to go a step further? Help us visually portray Theta authentically and inclusively. Representation matters, and it is important to us that Theta's materials reflect the diverse identities of our members. The activities below are just some that we'd love to receive more photos of:

- Virtual events, including reunions, group events, and get-togethers;
- CASA, philanthropy, and service involvement; and
- Candid (unposed!) sisterhood photos.

How to submit:

- Online via the Theta Website (www.kappaalphatheta.org/contact)
- Email marketing@kappaalphatheta.org
- Snail mail to Theta HQ
Kappa Alpha Theta Fraternity
attn: Theta Magazine
8740 Founders Road
Indianapolis, IN 46268

Note: Digital photos must be shot at the highest quality possible and submitted at the largest size possible. Please don't crop, retouch, or filter.

Fundraising

No Matter the Circumstance

KAPPA ALPHA THETA

HOME CALENDAR FAQ LOGIN

SUPPORT A FUNDRAISER

+ START A FUNDRAISER

Show All ▾



CONES FOR CASA
In support of Court Appointed Special Advocates of Payne and Logan Counties

\$9,188
RAISED

620
DONORS

SEP 15
7:00 PM

Beta Zeta



THETA Candy Land for CASA
In support of Court Appointed Special Advocates

\$11,047
RAISED

491
DONORS

Rho



Theta's VIRTUAL CASA 5K
In support of CASA of McLennan County

\$24,262
RAISED

387
DONORS

SEP 25
6:00 PM

Epsilon Epsilon



Virtual Rock The CASA
In support of Capital Area CASA

\$13,495
RAISED

277
DONORS

NOV 13
6:00 PM

Delta Kappa



WildKAT Chase Virtual 5k
In support of Sunflower CASA Project, Inc.

\$11,346
RAISED

260
DONORS

SEP 27

Delta Eta



Let's DO Brunch Drive-Through
In support of Court Appointed Special Advocates and Guardian ad Litem

\$3,709
RAISED

244
DONORS

NOV 8
11:00 AM

Beta Nu

While hosting service and fundraising events has never looked more different for our college chapters, our partnership with CrowdChange has never shown more promise. CrowdChange's online fundraising platform offers tons of features to our college chapters to help them host their philanthropy events as seamlessly as possible. Our collegians are making positive change, regardless of the state of in-person event planning, and their hard work doesn't go unnoticed!

KAT CARDS

In support of Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation, the Friendship Fund



- ▲ **Eta Sigma/Chapman** created cards for purchase for women fighting on the frontlines of COVID-19 and more than doubled their fundraising goal.

\$2.92 FOR THE 292

In support of Court Appointed Special Advocates



- ▲ **Delta Upsilon/Eastern Kentucky** challenged donors to give \$2.92 in honor of the 292 children in the foster care system in their county.

KAPPA ALPHA THETA'S 35TH ANNUAL ROCK THE CASA 5K

In support of CASA Voices for Children and Theta Foundation



- ▲ **Delta Omega/Texas A&M** kept calm under pressure when they had to move their event online in the middle of the pandemic and still raised more than \$5,000 for CASA/GAL and Theta Foundation.

WHAT DID THETA DO DURING THE 1918-1919 SPANISH FLU PANDEMIC?

BY: NORALEEN DUVALL YOUNG | ALPHA CHI/PURDUE

A frequent question recently has been about what Thetas did during the 1918-1920 influenza pandemic, a similar situation to what we all have been experiencing over the last few months. Just as we have questions and concerns about coronavirus and recruitment, college chapters of that period reflected on how the pandemic impacted "rushing."

The spread of the flu virus was uneven throughout the United States and Canada, and the degrees of school closures reflected the surrounding community's varied experiences. Because of the timing, many college campuses either delayed opening for the fall semester, sent students home, or closed until January 1919. Beyond the two waves of the Spanish flu during 1918, there were continuing flare-ups of the pandemic into the 1920s, and campuses responded with bans on large gatherings or closing college altogether. Sounds familiar, right?

While the archives doesn't have images of Thetas depicting their experiences during the 1918 flu pandemic, the pages of the Theta magazine reveal their thoughts and activities during this period. Due to the war, paper was in short supply, so Theta produced smaller issues of the magazine and this limited reporting on the impact of the pandemic.

In the January 1919 issue of the magazine, which led with an obituary of Grand Vice President (GVP) Hazel Forde, Kappa/Kansas, who died from complications of the flu, then-editor L. Pearle Green, Phi/Stanford, wrote in her editorial comments, "This same 'flu' has been at work many places, at least four colleges where we have chapters have been closed twice by the epidemic and with less than one month of actual college this term they can almost say there has been no chapter life. The ban on meetings of all kinds in many cities has kept the alumnae chapters suspended too. Let us hope that January will be a new college year in every sense, as it is actually to be many colleges where they will begin the year with the usual fall courses, and complete a full college year by September, so that the boys who have been in service and those who because of S.A.T.C. and 'flu' could not accomplish a term's work this fall, can lose no time."

The following are a small collection of quotes from Theta college and alumnae chapters that reported on how the 1918-1920 flu pandemic impacted their campus activities.

Alpha/DePauw: We have just settled down to real work again after the 'flu' ban and the peace celebration and Old Gold day and the Wabash game. College closed two weeks after matriculation and remained so for three weeks. And just as things were slipping back into normal the armistice was signed and even the three parades, we had didn't half express all we felt. On account of the influenza epidemic few people were back for Old Gold day.

New York Alumnae: New York alumnae chapter is reviving after the "flu" and our February [1919] meeting was almost normal.

Gamma/Butler: We were all registered but had not attended all of our classes when the first 'flu' ban was called, closing the college for all non-military students. Now after four weeks of vacation, revised programs, re-registration, another 'flu' ban, 'flu' masks, and peace celebrations, we are hoping to get acquainted with our books before 'exams' come.

Kappa/Kansas: Then college was closed for the epidemic, and we are only now back into routine again, though we are expecting at any time to have college close a second time as the 'flu' has returned.

Sigma/Toronto: College was closed by the 'flu' from Oct. 19 to Nov. 5, during which time many members of Sigma worked as volunteer nurse's aides at emergency hospitals, etc.

Psi/Wisconsin: Psi is struggling with its annual epidemic of final examinations and influenza. The number of deaths from the influenza has been so great that we are now under a temporary ban, which we hope will be raised before Prom.

Chi/Syracuse: Chi writes from the midst of confusion, rushing and Spanish influenza ... Beds and classes are elusive, moving things. To add to the confusion Spanish influenza spread through city and university. Such conditions probably exist in all universities and we are the gainers in one respect, namely that our house has been renovated with furniture from the men's fraternity houses.

Omega/UC Berkeley: The university did not close during the influenza epidemic, but there was a great deal of illness and all activities were slowed up.

The military units were in quarantine and everyone was obliged to wear a gauze mask for four whole weeks. Several of our girls were ill, and those who kept well themselves offered their services as nurses in the Aviation barracks and the municipal wards.

Alpha Sigma/Washington State: After two weeks of actual college work, the Spanish influenza reached us and on October 21, college closed indefinitely. Then we scattered, but six girls remaining in Pullman. These busied themselves with aiding the Red Cross during the epidemic by making 'flu' masks and helping prepare food for the patients. It was not till a month later that classes were resumed and now we are busy with only four weeks of the quarter remaining.

Alpha Psi/Lawrence: Lawrence has been exceptionally favored in escaping the 'flu' epidemic with comparatively few cases.

Beta Delta/Arizona: The 'flu' epidemic closed the university on Oct. 20, not to reopen again until Jan. 2.

Seattle Alumnae: Seattle alumnae chapter is feeling unusually active this year in spite of numerous repressions. Before a meeting could be called in the fall the influenza ban was placed upon the city, and there was no getting together until November when we met with Marie Browley and planned the year's work. A second ban settled upon us in December and threw the meeting for that month into early January when we met with Helen Bush.

Lambda/Vermont: We have finally, in spite of the influenza and its attendant quarantine, pledged eleven splendid freshmen. The time was so long, and the delays so unexpected and disheartening, that we had almost given up hope. But they were indeed worth waiting for.

Alpha Omega/Pittsburgh: College was closed by the 'flu' for six weeks. As a consequence, rushing season will not close until the third week in January.

Alpha Kappa/Adelphi: Adelphi did not close on account of the influenza. There were only four or five cases of the 'flu' at Adelphi and we all feel that the atmosphere must be very healthy here.

Alpha Upsilon/Washburn: ...And two days later, the Topeka alumnae sent us our long-hoped-for Victrola and records. The alumnae gift has always come to us at the time of the annual Founders' day

part; but regret that this year, the party had to be given up on account of the influenza.

Portland Alumnae: So, instead we'll have to blame the flu epidemic. And that is [no] make-shift excuse either, for Portland suffered severely from it, and for weeks, even months, all churches and theaters were closed and meetings of all kinds were prohibited. As a consequence, Kappa Alpha Theta has had but two meetings since last November.

Chicago Alumnae: [on celebrating the 50th anniversary of Theta] The attendance was much curtailed at that by the flu and the driving snow storm Chicago experienced that day. Then in lieu of a Founder present, was a Founder's daughter, Edna Locke Hamilton, Alpha, who spoke most delightfully of her Mother's appreciation of this fraternity celebration. Miss Hamilton could not stay through the luncheon, much to every one's regret, as the flu epidemic was making unusual demands on her as head of the city's dispensary nurse service.

Delta/Illinois: The 'flu' epidemic has broken out in the Twin Cities, but as yet here are few cases in the university. College dances have been prohibited for a time and every precaution is being taken to prevent the spread of the disease among the students.

Beta Beta/Randolph-Macon Woman's College: None of us dreamed when the last siege of influenza had finally passed away into history that we would be under quarantine again so soon. Nevertheless, the fact remains that no one indulge in either a street car ride or in a jaunt to the movies. The only way we make up for missing these regular indulgences is by strolling on the campus and pretending that we do not want to go anyway.

One of the last specific references to the 1918-1920 flu pandemic occurred in May 1920 when **Kappa/Kansas** reported, "Every Theta knows how intensely a pledge who has made her grades, longs for the great initiation day. Well, from February 1 in Kappa's chapter house, there were fourteen girls so inspired. We set the day at once. It was postponed by action of the flu ban. The second time we even got so far as to hold a work day, only to be called in the midst of our final preparations, and ordered to postpone it again. ... Finally, after much persuasion, we were granted permission to hold initiation with active members alone present. The delay seemed only have made the affair more successful, however, and one could not ask to meet worthier Thetas."

One of the challenges of telling Theta's stories during the 1918-1920 flu pandemic is a lack of specific items and stories outside of the magazine. The archives would love to collect more items that reflect Thetas' lives during COVID-19 so that this story may be better told in the future. Welcomed items include, but aren't limited to specific masks; images and digital recordings of activities of alumnae and college chapters and groups; or any print materials related to your chapter's or group's activities during this time. If you have something you'd like to share with the archives, please email archives@kappaalphatheta.org.



▲ Beta Iota/Colorado

A TRULY MEMORABLE YEAR

150

As 2020 comes to a close, Theta is wrapping up her sesquicentennial year. Since Theta was founded 150 years ago, you have surely seen many changes in the world around you and within our Fraternity. One thing that hasn't changed is our commitment to provide special opportunities for social, intellectual, and personal growth.

If you join Life Loyal by December 31, 2020, your name could be one of two drawn to receive a special sesquicentennial collection ornament from one of our licensed vendors, Sorority Girl Store. Not only that, but Life Loyal members can take advantage of other sesquicentennial discounts that include 15% off sesquicentennial jewelry purchased by December 1, 2020, and 10% off our limited edition coffee table book, *150 Years of Kappa Alpha Theta*, until December 31, 2020. Email theta150@kappaalphatheta.org if you have any questions about these sesquicentennial-related discounts. As always, you can learn more about becoming Life Loyal at thetalifeloyal.org.

BECOME A LIFE LOYAL THETA!

THESE WOMEN ENROLLED BETWEEN FEBRUARY 1, 2020, AND JULY 31, 2020.

Alpha/DePauw

Nancy Milligan Frick
Karyn Keenan

Beta/Indiana

Cynthia Price Czabala
Mary Deneen
Tricia Hindman Dittlau

Gamma/Butler

Shannon Alexander
Brandt Carter

Delta/Illinois

Leigh Anne Henson Edison
Tracee Bell Troutt

Iota/Cornell

Diane Miller

Kappa/Kansas

Emma Pound
Phyllis Robertson
Liz Robinson
Emily Sattlem
Taylor Vaughn

Lambda/Vermont

Vanessa Kenealy
Sunny Stanfield

Gamma deuteron/Ohio Wesleyan

Pat Turley McManis

Mu/Allegheny

Posey Bates Kister
Christine Wachnowsky

Omicron/USC

Emma Anderson
Kadee Marsh McCorkle

Rho/Nebraska

Becky Barrett Bezousek
Kerstin Olson Eckstrom
Mia Wilken

Tau/Northwestern

Anita Kraus Lane

Phi/Pacific

Jean Pereira Dunn

Psi/Wisconsin

Hallie Heath

Omega/UC Berkeley

Floreine Hernandez Kahn

Alpha Gamma/Ohio State

Ann Sterner Day

Alpha Eta/Vanderbilt

Lane Hirsch

Alpha Theta/Texas

Kara Nelson Adam
Niffer Claycombe Greenberg
Robin Kayem Hancock
Laura Meadows Partain

Leigh Ann Pyeatt Ranslem

Emily Winton Waltmon

Martha Thornton Walton

Wrynn Woodard Wilkins

Alpha Mu/Missouri

Katie Losse Friar

Dana Legan Kehr

Sara Tweedie Losse

Paulette Mueller - Frazee

Alpha Xi/Oregon

Hannah Brown

Alpha Omicron/Oklahoma

Pat Conner Coggan

Polly Albert Crawley

Cathy Danielson Rudder

Alpha Sigma/Washington State

Kristin Lowell Blakeslee

Alpha Tau/Cincinnati

Karen Cole Swan

Alpha Phi/Tulane

Emily Arvesen

Becky Black Blank

Joy Bruce

Alpha Chi/Purdue

Ellie Wang

Anne Littlefield Young

Alpha Psi/Lawrence

Christine Luedeman Fenner

Beta Delta/Arizona

Allison Ansbro

Jessie Wherty

Beta Zeta/Oklahoma State

Judi Hancock Clement

Tricia Cunningham Seth

Beta Theta/Idaho

Alexa Small

Yvonne Barmon Swanstrom

Beta Iota/Colorado

Lynn Stanislav Boucher

Marissa Venn Moser

Kim Gargano Penn

Beta Kappa/Drake

Brianna Dompke

Ivy Gardner

Beta Lambda/William & Mary

Elizabeth Distler Gaebe

Meg Weeks

Beta Mu/Nevada

Kathryn Binger

Sara Denton

Delaina Marengi

Lily Marengi

Jennifer Wickizer

Beta Nu/Florida State

Gabi Deliz

Kristin Holder Johnson

Stephanie Saffell Pichard

Debbie Oliver Siering

Lisa Woodbury Trombley

Beta Xi/UCLA

Cynthia Cramer Freeman

Catherine LaRue

Beta Pi/Michigan State

Genny Butz Adsit

Emily Burrell

Beta Sigma/SMU

Janet Schoeller Knight

Suzanne Devitt Levitt

Beta Phi/Penn State

Tricia Chinappi

Beta Omega/Colorado College

Shelby Patrick

Gamma Gamma/Rollins

Brooke Stemmons Jackson

Gamma Delta/Georgia

Diane Alexander

Ellen Cabaniss

Nancy Skillman Hollensbe

Gamma Iota/Kentucky

Beth Mattingly Lang

Emily Wilson Lawton

Gamma Nu/North Dakota State

Sarah Randall

Gamma Sigma/San Diego State

Amanda Brown

Carol McKee Schnugg

Lara Snow

Gamma Tau/Tulsa

Claire Chapman

Nicole Scott Nixon

Gamma Upsilon/Miami

Jennifer Greenlee

Gamma Phi/Texas Tech

Pattie Wall Harrell

Kourtney Moline Kouns

Christi Moxley Lang

Brittany Page

Lauren Shinn

Megan Vitte

Gamma Chi/Fresno State

Alexandra Garabedian

Gamma Psi/TCU

Brittany Kasko

Leslie Smith Young

Delta Epsilon/Arizona State

Barbara Lyding McLoone

Kathy Fischer Watson

Delta Theta/Florida

Donna Lough Griffith

Carol Bartlett Recio

Delta Iota/Puget Sound

Erin Budrow

Abigail Prest

Delta Kappa/LSU

Melinda Aucoin Parker

Mary Jane Walker

Delta Nu/Arkansas

Julia Thurman Williams

Delta Omicron/Alabama

Michele Brewer Hill

Delta Pi/Tennessee

Deb Dyer Handy

Karen Parker Rosalez

Delta Sigma/Ball State

Cindy Dunbar Vogel

Delta Chi/Virginia

Edie Hofstead Cabaniss

Delta Omega/Texas A&M

Linda Little Brown

Jenny Pettijohn Henry

Laurie Sisemore Holley

Caren Valenciano Oaks

Amy David Robert

Epsilon Epsilon/Baylor

Julie Manske Bell

Olivia Galante

Carole Coleman George

Epsilon Zeta/Mississippi

Susan Smith Epperson

Delta Kappa/LSU

Molly Merchant

Epsilon Eta/Centre

Lindy Hardin Chapman

Vicki Gillenwater

Epsilon Mu/Princeton

Erin Gray

Lyra Katzman

Sydney Montgomery

Epsilon Nu/Virginia Tech

Chandra Banknieder McMahon

Epsilon Phi/Chicago

Vanessa Copeland

Zeta Theta/Cal Poly

Alexa Mootchnik

Zeta Kappa/South Carolina

Debbie Drucker Deutschmann

Kimberly Matthews Geddings

Zeta Lambda/Charleston

Carson Fisher

Zeta Mu/MIT

Mary-Ellin Pothier Brooks

Zeta Nu/UC Davis

Lynn Chao

Zeta Omicron/Wake Forest

Melissa Berry Gratiias

Zeta Psi/Southern Mississippi

Heather Lee Beach

Stefani Lott Carmichael

Eta Iota/San Diego

Gina Marconi Byles

Eta Pi/Case Western

Priya Khullar

Eta Sigma/Chapman

Sachi Aguillio

Eta Tau/Tampa

Emily Oxenhorn

Eta Omega/Saint Louis

Carly Vordtriede

Theta Kappa/Louisville

Natalie Feder

Theta Lambda/Rochester

Ali Thome

Theta Mu/Mines

Glory O'Brien

LIFE LOYAL MEMBERS RECEIVE

- A lifetime subscription to the Kappa Alpha Theta Magazine,
- Fraternity dues payments for life*,
- A handcrafted lapel pin,
- A personalized wallet card,
- Special leadership and educational opportunities available only to Life Loyal members, and more!

*Not including alumnae chapter dues.

HOW DO I ENROLL?

ONLINE

Simply go to thetalifeloyal.org to join and pay online.

PHONE

Call Theta headquarters, **800-526-1870 ext. 131**, to provide your contact and payment information over the phone.

MAIL

Print the enrollment form available at thetalifeloyal.org and mail the completed form with your check or credit card information to:

Kappa Alpha Theta
attn: Kiera Helm
8740 Founders Road
Indianapolis, Indiana 46268

Voices

**FROM DAY ONE IN THETA, I
SAW MANY WOMEN DOING
INCREDIBLE THINGS.**

**Amy Huck
Beta Theta/Idaho
(See page 7.)**

**IF RETIREMENT CAN BE REGARDED AS THE
NEXT CHAPTER IN LIFE, I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE
HOW THE CHARACTERS EVOLVE AND THE
PLOT DEVELOPS IN MY OWN NEXT CHAPTER.**

**Liz Appel Rinck
Gamma/Butler
(See page 3.)**

**THERE'S NOTHING BETTER THAN A
BEST FRIEND WHO YOU CAN CALL
ANYTIME FOR ANYTHING. ... AND IT
DOESN'T HURT IF THEY HAVE THE
SAME TASTE IN WINE AS YOU!**

**Michelle Sullivan
Eta Theta/Central Florida
(See page 18.)**

**EVEN AS WE COPE WITH
CORONAVIRUS-RELATED
CHANGES TO OUR LIVES,
WE CAN TAKE CARE OF
OURSELVES AND ONE
ANOTHER.**

(See page 20.)

**BEYOND THE TWO
WAVES OF THE
SPANISH FLU DURING
1918, THERE WERE
CONTINUING FLARE-
UPS OF THE PANDEMIC
INTO THE 1920S, AND
CAMPUSES RESPONDED
WITH BANS ON LARGE
GATHERINGS OR
CLOSING COLLEGE
ALTOGETHER. SOUNDS
FAMILIAR, RIGHT?**

**Noraleen Duvall Young
Alpha Chi/Purdue
(See page 28.)**

**IF THERE IS TRUE,
CONCERTED EFFORT
FROM OUR ORGANIZATION
ON [DIVERSITY, EQUITY,
AND INCLUSION], I AM
IMMEDIATELY PAYING
MY ALUMNAE DUES AND
SIGNING UP WHEREVER I
CAN TO HELP DRIVE THIS
MESSAGE.**

**Nicole Scott Nixon
Gamma Tau/Tulsa
(See page 11.)**

**THIS IMMEDIATE
INFUSION OF
SISTERHOOD WAS
LIFE-GIVING AND,
AS WE CAME TO
FIND OUT, VERY
NECESSARY.**

**Katie Nelson Marcucci
Beta Epsilon/Oregon State
(See page 6.)**


KAPPA ALPHA THETA

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Indianapolis, IN 46268-1300
www.kappaalphatheta.org